MNM Fatal 2005-14

- Machinery
- June 17, 2005 (Washington)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Operating Engineer/Mechanic
- 32 years old
- Five years mining experience

Overview

The victim was removing the toggle plate seat from the pitman on a jaw crusher. He was standing on a temporary platform when the bolts holding the toggle seat were removed, causing the pitman to move and strike him.



Causal Factors

- Management policies, standards, and controls were inadequate. Procedures were not in place to ensure that the pitman was blocked against hazardous motion before the toggle seat wedge bolts were removed.
- Standards and controls were inadequate. No task training was provided to the miners regarding the removal of the toggle seat on the jaw crusher to make them aware of the health and safety aspects of the task.

Best Practices

- Ensure that miners receive task training prior to allowing them to perform maintenance or repair on machinery or equipment.
- Discuss the work procedures, including all possible hazards (Risk Assessment) and ensure the manufacturer's recommendations are followed for all repair work.

Best Practices

- Before working on equipment, lock out the power and block equipment components against all possible motion/movement resulting from a sudden release of energy.
- If potential hazards or prescribed procedures are unclear, DO NOT proceed until all safety concerns are adequately resolved.